



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**DA 18-38**  
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*Via Electronic Mail*

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**Re: Applications to Transfer Control of Tribune Media Company to Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc., MB Docket No. 17-179**

Dear Counsel:

Today we are pausing the Commission's informal 180-day transaction shot clock in this proceeding as of January 4, 2018. For the reasons set forth below, we believe that this action will contribute to a thorough analysis of the proposed transaction.

As set forth in an *Ex Parte Notice*<sup>1</sup> filed by counsel for Sinclair, Sinclair told Commission staff on January 4, 2018, that it, "was evaluating divestitures, as well as Top-4 showings to be made in amendments to the applications consistent with the recent changes to the ownership rules in the Commission's Order on Reconsideration and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking adopted November 16, 2017, but that the DOJ review may impact certain divestiture choices." The Commission has a strong interest in ensuring a full and complete record upon which to base its decision in this proceeding. Based on Sinclair's statement in its *Ex Parte Notice*, it is appropriate to stop the informal 180-day clock until after the referenced amendments and divestiture applications have been filed and staff has had an opportunity to fully review them. Pausing the clock will facilitate that process.

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Miles S. Mason to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, dated January 8, 2018, re: Notice of *Ex Parte* Communication, MB Docket No. 17-179, *Applications of Tribune Media Company and Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. for Consent to Transfer Control of Licenses and Authorizations (Ex Parte Notice)*.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact David Brown, Deputy Chief, Video Division, Media Bureau, at (202) 418-1645 or David Roberts, Video Division, Media Bureau, at (202) 418-1618.

Sincerely,

Michelle M. Carey  
Chief  
Media Bureau